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California Polytechnic State University

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Salute to Cal Poly Agribusiness Faculty Icons To Be Held March 1, 2002

Cal Poly College of Agriculture professors emeritus Edgar Hyer and Dan Chase will be special guests of honor March 1 in San Luis Obispo as the university's Agribusiness celebrates all its former faculty members and their enormous impact on students and California agriculture.

"This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to say thank you," said Ken Scott, chair of the Agribusiness Department. "Cal Poly could not possibly celebrate its Centennial without a look back at the faculty who shaped so many lives and who put 'learn by doing' on the map."

Hyer, of Sandy, Utah, and Chase, of Santa Barbara, were on the Cal Poly faculty for a combined 50 years, each one leaving an indelible mark as mentor, advisor, teacher and department head.

Hyer and Chase helped form the department in the 1950s along with Carl Beck and Phil Bromley. Beck passed away in 1975 and Bromley in November 2001. Today, nearly 1,000 students are majoring in agribusiness at Cal Poly, making it the nation's largest undergraduate program.

"We hope all our former faculty and students return, particularly those students who were here prior to 1981," said Scott.

Tickets to the banquet are available by calling the Agribusiness Department at (805) 756-5000 or by e-mailing Scott at kscott@calpoly.edu. The reception begins at 3 p.m., and the banquet begins at 6:30 p.m., at the Embassy Suites in San Luis Obispo on March 1. A golf tournament for agribusiness alumni will follow held March 2 at the Avila Beach Golf Resort.

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